



FÉDÉRATION INTERNATIONALE DES JOURNALISTES ET ECRIVAINS DU TOURISME
WORLD FEDERATION OF TRAVEL JOURNALISTS AND WRITERS
FEDERACION MUNDIAL DE PERIODISTAS Y ESCRITORES DE TURISMO

FIJET NEWSLETTER – February, 2012



“Certainly, travel is more than the seeing of sights; it is a change that goes on, deep and permanent, in the ideas of living.” – Miriam Beard

Important Information

March 31, 2012 – Final day for submitting intension to run for office in the FIJET Elections. Also finally deadline for paying dues for 2012 and for all members to be registered on the FIJET website. If ALL members of a National Association are not registered on the FIJET website the Association will not be allowed to have a candidate in the FIJET elections.

March 31, 2012 – Deadline for submitting articles and stories from the 53rd FIJET World Congress in Romania. Do not miss this deadline or you will NOT be allowed to attend the upcoming Congress and you could be expelled from FIJET.

Contents:

From the Editor's Desk – Jim discussed the upcoming FIJET elections with detila about the requirements for becoming a candidate.

FIJET News –The latest on the FIJET 2012 World Congress in Egypt; FIJET Board of Directors to be held in the Czech Republic in March; the 2012 Young Journalists Academy to be held in Maribor; an invitation to join the European Journalists 50th Congress; Rules governing requirements for publishing following a Congress or meeting.

News From Around FIJET – A new book celebrating the sights and history of Romania and the 53rd FIJET World Congress by Ryker Lomas and Jim Thompson is released; Monique Mangold honored with the AFJET Diploma of Honor following the publication of her book "Regards croisés entre France et République tchèque" (English: "Cross-glances between France and the Czech Republic").

Special Report – Bob Fisher (TravelJourno, FIJET-North America) discusses African-American Heritage in the state of Missouri as America celebrates Black History month.

Editor:

Jim Thompson (jim@traveljourn.com)

Important note:

The newsletter is open to all members of FIJET. Your news, articles, and other contributions are welcomed and appreciated. Please send all submissions for consideration to the newsletter editors.

FIJET Website: <http://www.fijet-web.com> or <http://www.fijet.net>

NOTE: Previous newsletters can be found on the website.

Update your Email. We are doing all that we can to ensure that all members of FIJET receive the newsletter via email each month. However, we are limited in this effort by the email addresses that are provided to us. If you have recently changed your email, or you or someone in your association is not receiving the newsletter, please provide us with the current address. This is the ONLY way to insure that you receive the newsletter in your email box. If you do not have an email address or have not been getting the newsletter, you can access it via the FIJET website (<http://www.fijet.net>) .



FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

Election Year Details

As we approach the **FIJET elections**, a number of question concerning procedures, dates and requirements have been raised. The elections are a serious issue for all of us and it is **important that all questions be addressed** and answered prior to the voting.

First, it should be noted that any questions that may arise will be **settled by the Elections Sub-Committee** which is chaired by **Marijana Rebic** of FIJET-Croatia. The Sub-Committee is empowered to settle disputes and to make final decisions in the event of questions. This Sub-Committee will also oversee the voting and ensure that the count is accurate and correct. Our thanks goes to Marijana and **Frans Rombots** who are currently serving on this Sub-Committee, for their hard work.



A **third member** of the Elections Sub-Committee will be **verified** at the upcoming meeting of the FIJET Executive Committee and Board of Directors in the Czech Republic.

As members of the Board of Directors were advised in the past few days, the deadline for submitting a declaration to run for office was **extended to March 31**. This was done in order to **comply with the FIJET bylaws** which state that a potential **candidate must comply with the following conditions** in order to qualify as a candidate:

1. The candidate's National Association must be **current in their membership dues**.
2. All members of the candidate's National Association must be **registered** on the FIJET website and **verified as legitimate journalists** or qualified Associate members.
3. All candidates must be verified as working journalists.

Failure to meet any of these requirements, will **disqualify any potential candidate** for office. Keeping the deadline at March 5 would not have allowed the time required under the bylaws to comply with all of the rules. If the date had not been moved, any one who may have been disqualified would have had grounds for an appeal. The new date will **eliminate potential protests or appeals**.



The **elections will be held at the 2012 Congress**, as has always been the case. Although there were rumors that the elections would take place at the Board meeting in the Czech Republic in March, this was only a rumor and never true.

The **future of FIJET** is at stake in these elections and it is my hope that we have a strong field of candidates. It is also my hope that the elections will bring new faces, new blood and new ideas to the Executive Committee.

In order to thrive in the future, FIJET must have **strong, hard working leaders**. But, I advise all of those thinking of running that being a part of the Executive Committee is **not easy**. It requires hours of work with no compensation, lots of frustration and little thanks. Do not run if you expect to have glory. But, if you really believe in FIJET and want to see it grow and prosper, then you are a welcome candidate.



Jim Thompson
FIJET Executive Committee
Director of FIJET Congresses & Meetings

FIJET NEWS



2012 Congress in Egypt – Discussions are still underway for the 2012 FIJET World Congress in Egypt. Executive Committee member, Salah Attia, is working on the program that is schedule for October, 2012. Some members have expressed concern about the political situation in Egypt. Salah has assured us that he is closely monitoring the situation. A full discussion of the situation will be made during the Board of Directors meeting in the Czech Republic in March.

Board Meeting in the Czech Republic – The first meeting of the FIJET Board of Directors is currently scheduled to take place in the Czech Republic in March. Miroslav Navara (FIJET-Czech Republic and former member of the FIJET Executive Committee) is working on the final program which will be sent to the Board members via email as soon as it is available.

2012 Young Journalists Academy Set for June – With a theme of “Culture & Sustainable Tourism,” the 2012 Young Journalists Academy will be held in Maribor, Slovenia from June 1-8, 2012.

According the Drago Bulc, Director of the FIJET Academy for Young Travel Journalists, “the Board of the Academy for Young Travel Journalists, in cooperation with FIJET, will hold the third Academy for Young Travel Journalists in Maribor, the second largest town in the Republic of Solvenia and the city designated as the “European Capital of Culture of 2012.”

“Situation on the banks of the River Drava on the outskirts of the Alps, the wine growing hills of Maribor, which connects the four European countries of Italy, Austria, Slovenia and Croatia, sweeps gently down to the Pannonia Plain. The city boasts the 400 year old vine, which is officially recognized as the Oldest Vine in the world by the Guinness Book of World Records.





“Included in the program will be a visit to the nearby Austrian city of Graz, the European Capital of Culture in the year 2003. As Academy is always an “edu-tainment” event participants will have the possibility to visit different cultural events and performances as well as tourist and cultural attractions in Maribor and its surroundings.”

During meeting between Drago Bulc and Taleb Rifai, Secretary General of the World Tourism Organization UNWTO, Mr. Rifai confirmed the interest of UNWTO to support the Academy. Details of this cooperation will be coordinated by Marcelo Risi, Principal Media Officer UNWTO, who was also one of the speakers at the second Academy earlier this year in Portorož.

The detailed program is expected in the coming weeks. All national organizations and individual members are requested to start collecting candidates e.g. applications for the Academy 2012, especially from those countries whose citizens need visa to enter Slovenia.

“Should the application be received on time we guarantee for the first 20 registered participant visa for Slovenia e.g. the Schengen visa,” said Drago.

FIJET Elections – Election for FIJET President and for the Executive Committee will be held this year. All National Associations are encourage to have a candidate (only one candidate per Association is allowed). In order to be considered valid Associations and allowed to have a candidate, National Associations must have paid the dues for all of their members by March 31, 2012 and all of their members must be registered in the FIJET website by that same date. Any association which does not pay dues or which do not have at least 10 registered journalist members will not be considered valid and will not be allowed to have a candidate.

Global Media Forum Invitation – Hendrik Schott (FIJET-Germany) reports that Deutsche Welle (Germany's international broadcaster) will organize the fifth edition of the Global Media Forum in June, 2012.

Hendrik can offer sponsorships (which should include airfares and accommodations) to the event for a limited number of journalists. You are asked to send and email to Jim Thompson (jim@traveljourn.com) if you are interested in participating. Please understanding that there are a limited number of spaces. Candidates will be notified if they are selected.

The topic of next year's conference will be "Culture. Education. Media." Cultural diversity and the UNESCO world heritage will also play an important role. Among the events will be a workshop organized by the UNWTO and a keynote address by the head of the UNWTO.

More information is available at: www.dw-gmf.de.

FIJET Members invited to the European Journalists 50th Congress –Our colleague Hendrik



Schott (FIJET-Germany) notes that “some spaces are available to FIJET members at the European Journalists (EJ) 50th Congress which will be held in Razlog, Bulgaria from September 20-23, 2012.

The schedule of events is attached. If you are interested, you should contact Paolo Magagnotti, EJ President or EJ Secretary General Raluca Nelepcu (nelepcu@adz.ro Mobile: +40 726 319 746).

You can also contact Sofia Vassil Sotirov for information regarding Bulgaria and the area where the congress will take place. Vassil Sotirov’s e-mail and mobile: vsotirov@yahoo.com - +359 885 840 487

Mr. Magagnotti notes that, “Since it will be a special event because the Congress will coincide with the 50th anniversary of the EJ foundation, and because in the Country club when we will be staying the number of rooms for us will be limited, we need to have a pre-registration by December 20, 2011 and definitive confirmation by February 29.”

The participation fee is: 200 (two hundred)-Euros for a person in a single room and 350 (three hundred fifty)-Euros for two persons in a double room.

The participation fee includes:

- participation in all Congress events
- transportation from airport to the Club and back
- three nights in five stars hotel or apartment, including breakfast
- three dinners
- two lunches
- visits and excursions

50th EJ Congress

Razlog, “Pirin Golf & Country Club”

The Future of the European Union
Socio-economic Development in the Balkans

Thursday, September 20, 2012

Arrival day

- 9:00 pm: Welcome dinner at the Country Club (near Razlog)

Friday, September 21, 2012

Morning: The Future of the European Union

First part

- Opening of the Congress
- Welcome addresses by local authorities and representatives of the Bulgarian Government



Second part

- Round table with politicians, journalists and businessmen.

Lunch

- Visit to the worldwide famous Rila Monastery
- Dinner in the wood with torches

Saturday, September 22, 2012

Morning: Socio-economic Development in the Balkans

First part

- Speakers:
 - Sergio Arzeni: Director, Centre for Entrepreneurship, SMEs and Local Development of the OECD, Paris.
 - Manfred Swarovski: Swarovski Chrystal; Founder and CEO of SWACO.
 - Jordan Kanazirev: Director, BALKANSTROY
 - Other Speakers TBA

Second part

- Round table with politicians, journalists and entrepreneurs.

Lunch

- Visits to be organized
- Dinner in Club's restaurants

Sunday, September 23, 2012

- Departure day



Pre-registration by December 20, 2011.

Registration confirmation must be received by February 29.

CONGRESS & MEETING PRODUCTION CRITERIA & RULES

CRITERIA FOR ATTENDING A CONGRESS

- Any member whose membership dues are not paid by March 31 of the year of the Congress will not be allowed to attend the Congress.
- New members may not attend a Congress in the first year of their membership.
- Members who have not attended a Congress in the previous three years are required to present proof of their continuing activity as a journalist before being allowed to register for the Congress.
- Anyone not sending in at least one qualifying published article, broadcast or photo credit, following a Congress or event will not be allowed to attend the next Congress or event and will be required to provide proof (audit) of their work as a professional travel journalist, writer, broadcaster or photographer over the previous year before they are allowed to attend any future Congress or event.

- Congress quotas (if set) will apply to each country and not to each association.

PRODUCTION CRITERIA & RULES

(Note: All requested information must be provided in English)

1. All journalists members of FIJET attending a Congress, no matter their registration status, must write and publish at least one article following the Congress and prior to the deadline set for publishing. Articles published prior to the Congress are not acceptable.
2. Copies of articles and broadcasts must be sent to the Secretary General prior to the announced deadline. Since the deadline is usually six months following a Congress (exact date will be published prior to the Congress), unless a special exemption has been granted, no excuses will be accepted for failing to publish.
3. If there are extraordinary circumstances that prevent a member from meeting the stated deadline, a special exemption (which may or may not be granted) must be requested prior to the deadline for publication.
4. Acceptable articles **MUST** be published in a magazine, newspaper or recognized website. An article that is simply typed in a word processor is **NOT** acceptable. Articles published only in association newsletters will also not be accepted. Information posted to free Internet sites such as Facebook or YouTube along with blogs and blog sites are not acceptable to meet the publishing requirements.
5. When sending copies of articles and broadcasts, you must provide the entire publication (in the case of printed materials) and program portions that aired before and after (in the case of a broadcast). For print publications, this means the entire magazine or newspaper section.
6. Members registered as photographers, must provide copies of articles containing their photos (in the format stated in item 5 above). The photos must contain a photo credit with the name of the photographer or it will not be accepted. A CD that contains only photos is not acceptable.
7. All articles must contain the name of the person writing the article in order to be accepted. If you write under a pen name, you must provide us with that name prior to registering for the Congress.
8. No more than four people per publication will be allowed to attend a Congress in the name of that publication.
9. Only recognized and established websites will be acceptable for proof of publication. Those writing for websites must provide (in English) information about the site, including circulation figures, year site was established and information about the prime audience.
10. All articles, broadcasts and photos must be accompanied by the following information in English:

Title of Article

Name of Author

Citizenship of Author

Name of Media

Page number in the media or date and time of broadcast

Country of Media

Circulation of Media

Information on where publication is distributed

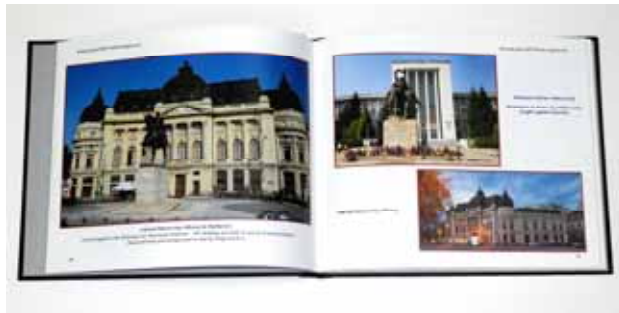
Date (month, year) article published or broadcast

NEWS FROM AROUND FIJET

Romania Book Released – Official FIJET photographer, Ryker Lomas has released a spectacular new book of photos and memories from the 53rd FIJET World Congress in Romania. Working with FIJET Executive Committee Member, Jim Thompson, who provided the words, Ryker has included photos of the many locations we visited along with some very special photos of members and events.



This exciting, high-gloss photo book takes you through the highlights of the Congress through exceptional photos that were taken, edited and carefully selected by master photographer Ryker Lomas. Jim Thompson offers special insights and historical information to complete this special look at the romance, history and culture of Romania.



A limited edition of this 100-page book is being printed and copies will be available to FIJET members at a special price (only the direct cost of printing). Those interested in obtaining one of limited edition copies should contact Ryker Lomas at: ryk1085@aol.com or Jim Thompson at: jim@traveljournos.com

Mangold Honored – During the meeting of the AFJET Board of Directors meeting that took place in Paris on the 15th of December 2011, the AFJET Diploma of Honor was presented to Monique Mangold, after the publication of her book “Regards croisés entre France et République tchèque” (English: “Cross-glances between France and the Czech Republic”).

AFJET member, Jose Deliens sent in this report about the book, the publication of which coincides with the upcoming meeting of the Board of Directors in the Czech Republic.

Cross-glances between France and the Czech Republic

Monique Mangold invites us to an enthralling discovery of the relations which France maintains with the Czech Republic. She is acting as an historian of the time of Charles IV, emperor of the Holy Roman Germanic Empire and the more recent entry of the Czech Republic in the European Union.

By inviting us to accompany her in her initiatory walks, the author asks us to share her astonishment and her bewilderment. Beyond the glance, she seeks to discover the secrets of these secular stones. Abundant authentic or legendary accounts are supported by a sensitive and talented writing. The work is rich in encounters, from humble testimonies to the highest knowledge of eminent personalities of the world of arts and letters, but all of them full of knowledge and humanism. Monique Mangold weaves for us golden, silver and crystal threads which cross, link themselves and resist the attacks of men and time.

Author, lecturer, Monique Mangold is a member of the Academy of Science, Letters and Arts of Alsace, of the Society of Writers of Paris, of the World Association of Journalists and Travel Writers, of the Society of History and Geography of Mulhouse... The work " Cross-Glances between France and the Czech Republic" was rewarded in 2010 by the first prize – in the category Essays- in the contest Grenzen fließen, Borders move, an historical and cultural contest organized on the initiative of the European cultural network of the Society Jeanne de Ferrette/Johanna Von Pfirt-Gesellschaft, Vienna, Austria..

**Un voyage avec l'Affjet à Prague
Un congrès Fijet à Karlovy Vary
à la source d'un ouvrage :**
"Regards croisés entre France et République tchèque".



C'est un récit passionnant des relations historiques, culturelles, artistiques... existantes entre ces deux pays que nous propose Monique Mangold.

Elle fait œuvre d'historienne de l'époque de Charles IV, empereur du Saint-Empire romain germanique, à celle plus récente de l'entrée de la République tchèque dans l'Union européenne.

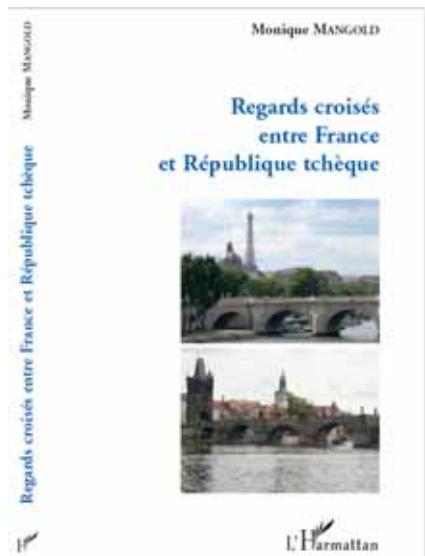
En nous invitant à l'accompagner dans ses promenades initiatives, l'auteur nous offre en partage ses découvertes, ses étonnements et ses éblouissements.

Au-delà du regard, elle cherche à pénétrer les secrets de ces pierres séculaires.

D'abondants récits authentiques ou légendaires sont portés par une écriture sensible et talentueuse.

Tchèques, Français, éminentes personnalités du monde des arts et des lettres, l'ouvrage est riche de rencontres, toutes empreintes de savoirs et d'humanisme.

Ces pages, reflets sélectifs et subjectifs de la richesse des échanges franco-tchèques, dessinent un florilège de personnalités dont les idées, les activités, les sentiments et les émotions illuminent l'espace au-delà de la Seine et de la Vltava.



L'écrivain Chateaubriand à Prague..., le peintre Alfons Maria Mucha, qui connut la célébrité à Paris..., la journaliste Louise Weiss, amie des Tchèques, rencontra à plusieurs reprises le président de la République T.G. Masaryk...le musicien Gustav Mahler, dont Rodin fit des bustes en bronze, ... l'artiste Ivan Theimer, auteur du monument commémoratif du bicentenaire de la déclaration des droits de l'homme et du citoyen au Champ de Mars à Paris.....

Monique Mangold tisse pour nous des fils d'or, d'argent et de cristal qui se croisent, s'unissent et résistent aux assauts des hommes et du temps.

Auteur, conférencière, **Monique Mangold** est membre de l'Académie des Sciences, Lettres et Arts d'Alsace ; de la Société des Gens de lettres de Paris ; de la Fédération Internationale des Journalistes et Ecrivains du Tourisme (FIJET) ; de la Société d'Histoire et de Géographie de Mulhouse...

L'ouvrage Regards croisés entre France et République tchèque a été récompensé en 2010 par le premier prix, dans la catégorie Essais, au concours historique et culturel international Grenzen fließen (Les frontières bougent).

L'ouvrage "Regards croisés entre France et République tchèque", Editions l'Harmattan, Paris 2011 est en vente dans toutes les librairies, FNAC..... au prix de 28,50 euros".

L'auteur se fera un plaisir de répondre à vos questions : Monique Mangold-Dalle – 34 rue Daguerre F– 68 200 Mulhouse (France)
Tél. fixe : +33 389 42 05 83 – mobile +33 622 96 08 27
courriel : monic.mangold@numericable.fr

SPECIAL REPORT

Cultural Convergence and African-American Heritage in Missouri

By Bob Fisher (*TravelJourno*, FIJET-North America)

In Canada and the United States, February is "Black History Month;" a time when the achievements and suffering of African-Canadians and African-Americans are celebrated. For travelers and travel journalists, the State of Missouri is, in many ways, the essence of Black culture.

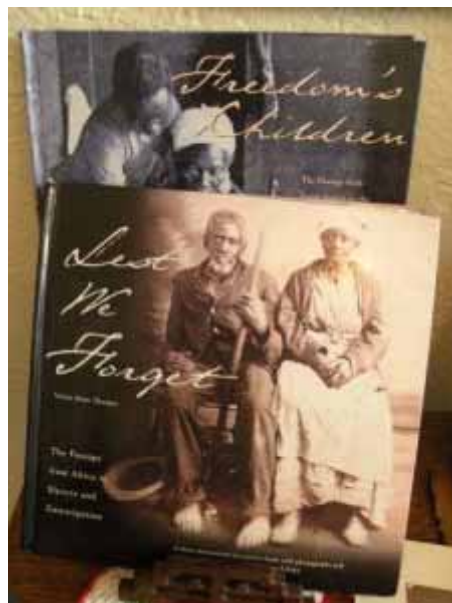
The Missouri mosaic

In the expanded and diversified world of travel and tourism, heritage travel has taken on a whole new meaning and purpose for many travellers.

In some senses, heritage travel is indeed a search for self; but not just a journey or quest for a sense of cultural identity and roots. Often during such travel experiences one discovers a collective sense of self, the human community in all its hues and shades, for better and for worse.

We travel to experience the diversity of human society in all its manifestations, and in so doing we discover commonality.

Why Missouri is content-rich travel



Missouri is one of those “layered” destinations that because of its cultural mosaic encourages reflection and a renewed interpretation.



It is the quintessential destination where still waters do indeed run deep. In many ways, it is a state that has seen the proverbial best of times and worst of times. And as Jimmie Edwards, one of my colleagues so succinctly put it during our time in Missouri, “History writes itself according to its own convenience.”

Although the physical landscape of Missouri is enduring (and a geological story in itself), the cultural landscape is complex and often very subtle.

Passion play

Meandering through Missouri is the kind of travel that tugs at the heart strings.

This lush and verdant landscape through which history flows along semi-concealed rivers, iconic biways, and of course the mighty Mississippi, embodies the idealism and idyllic frontiers — both historic and conceptual — of America.

And yet, the legacy of the institution of slavery is only a heartbeat away.

However, what I discovered that seemed very much “bred in the bone” and inherent in the historical landscape of Missouri was also an equally innate drive for self-determination.

In many ways, despite the miseries of history, Missouri is one of those endless moments in time in which the aspirations of human civilization are regenerated.

Icons, archetypes, and role models

Missouri is fertile ground for the imagination, and as the following individuals demonstrate, imagination — the ability to think outside the box, as we say today — is an essential tool of visionaries.

George Washington Carver

He has been referred to as the Thomas Edison of agriculture or at one point during his early career, they called him “the plant doctor.” As landscape shapes culture so too does it shape character. And there may be no better example of this than George Washington Carter whose innate understanding and keen observation of the interconnectedness of the intricate biological systems surrounding him, made him a pragmatic visionary in his own time but also, in contemporary 21st-century terms, he has come to represent universal common sense.



As a visionary and pragmatist, he saw all living things as interrelated and had a profound understanding of why civil rights and civil liberties are crucial to human prosperity:



“A successful life is one of service through helping others; real education helps us understand life, bringing us the kind of happiness that inspires us to help humanity; true religion is expressed in love and kindness toward all life; science worthy of its name is truth, which sets us free.”

A visit to the [George Washington Carver National Monument](#) (a National Park) is an opportunity to put human “greatness” in its full perspective.

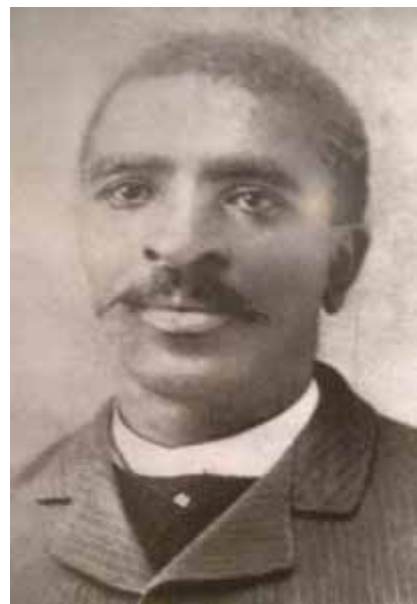
Dred and Harriet Scott

Given the constitutional importance and significance of the “Dred Scott versus Sandford case” (1799 – September 17, 1858), in which a slave (Scott) *unsuccessfully* sued for his freedom in the Courthouse in downtown St. Louis, it is an experiential lesson in justice and injustice to visit that same Courthouse today. His courage, and that of his wife Harriet – one must remember the enormity of the power structures they were opposing – are difficult to fully appreciate.

As an example of someone who legally was a “non-person” in the United States, and the property of another, it is also dramatic irony that no one knows exactly the circumstances of his birth, knowledge that most of us take for granted.

Exemplifying one of the most important legal and moral precedents in American history, Dred Scott and his wife Harriet were slaves who had lived in states and territories where slavery was actually illegal. Despite this legal irony, the United States Supreme Court ruled seven to two against Scott. That landmark decision stated that neither he, nor any person of African ancestry, could claim citizenship in the United States. For this reason, it was also stated that Scott could not bring suit in any federal court. And even though Dred and Harriet Scott had lived temporarily outside Missouri, the fact that they had lived in “free” states had no effect on their potential emancipation under [the Missouri Compromise](#), which, itself an ironic turn of historical events, divided the nation following the Louisiana Purchase creating a so-called “balance” of free and slave states.

In essence, the rights and freedoms of human beings were sacrificed and lost in the arbitrary constitutional events. In the final analysis, the Court decided that to free Dred and Harriet Scott would deprive their owner of her property.



To learn more about this landmark decision, [click here](#).

See also [Multicultural St. Louis: 19th-Century African-American History in St. Louis.](#)

Daniel and Nathan Boone



I am guessing that Carl Jung would have had much to say about the “frontier experience” as an operant factor in the North American psyche, especially in terms of influencing how Europeans related to the land, the “wide open spaces,” and how the opportunities and challenges that these geographic and topographical realities influenced the collective behaviour of the principal nations on this continent.

On so many levels, the frontier experience was an archetypal experience, and there is probably no more archetypal (and romanticized)

character than Daniel Boone.

When the early non-indigenous explorers started to penetrate the forests, prairies, and extensive water routes of Missouri (the mighty Mississippi being foremost among the latter), they were crossing conceptual borders and entering new territories that, in a folkloric sense, have entered the collective consciousness of Americans as well as all those outside the United States who have identified with the free spirit of the frontier.

Some of the first of this new breed of pioneers to arrive were the Boones, initially the sons of Daniel, and then the great wilderness-loving woodsman himself, whose fame as an archetypal character actually preceded him.

Missouri at the time was at the heart of great transitional shifts on the continent, and the Boones (Nathan especially) became major players. However, irony and the culture of nostalgia (or perhaps it is sentimentality) once again must be factored into the real history, at the risk of being accused of revisionist history.

Seen as the embodiment of the white European’s westward movement, Daniel Boone was actually fleeing from “civilization” rather than taming nature. Nathan, on the other hand, was the more entrepreneurial of the two. And, as is the case with so many significant American figures, it cannot be forgotten that the Boones were also slave owners.



The [Nathan Boone Homestead and State Historic](#) site near Ash Grove, Missouri is also a highly recommended stop.

And a visit to the [Daniel Boone Home & Boonesfield Village](#) is also an opportunity to learn much more about the reality-based life on the American frontier.

Mark Twain/Samuel Clemens

Wherever Twain travelled in the world, it would appear that he always understood clearly where he was really coming from. Like George Washington Carver, he too was a man who understood the simple (but not simplistic) truths of life. He also understood *hubris*, and often expressed his awareness of it in subtle ironic ways. In a speech titled, "Plymouth Rock and the Pilgrims," which he delivered on December 22, 1881, he said, "I am a border ruffian from the State of Missouri. I am a Connecticut Yankee by adoption. In me you have Missouri morals, Connecticut culture; this, gentlemen, is the combination which makes the perfect man."



A man known for his wit and wisdom, Twain was not adverse to issuing the occasional and somewhat mournful caveat about the importance of living well, living with integrity, and practising humanism. In *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn*, he wrote, "Then away out in the woods I heard that kind of a sound that a ghost makes when it wants to tell about something that's on its mind and can't make itself understood, and so can't rest easy in its grave, and has to go about that way every night grieving."

Twain's presence and long-range effect on American culture, especially his appreciation of Black culture and a truly grassroots approach to life, can still be felt throughout Missouri, especially in [his boyhood town of Hannibal](#).

Twain also of course embodies the universal art of storytelling and oral history, and given the layers of human experience inherent in Missouri, one can easily understand why some of those stories may escape notice or simply require more time to emerge.

Father Moses Berry and the Ozarks Afro-American Heritage Center



Father Moses Berry's religious heritage as an Eastern Orthodox priest goes back to the first century of Christianity; whereas his African-American heritage and personal history are much more recent, but in many ways just as profound. When he returned to the family farm in Ash Grove, Missouri he "came home" in many senses of that term. And when he established an Orthodox Church and the Ozarks Afro-American Heritage Museum, in which today you will find one of the best and personal collections of "memorabilia" and artifacts relating to the institution of slavery as well as to Father Berry's own personal African-American

heritage, he created a living testament to all those who personify the significant and historic role that Blacks played in Missouri and in the United States.

Father Berry's great-grandmother Caroline was descended from a slave who, according to the simple family tree in the Heritage Museum was an "unknown slave of African heritage." This "unknown" woman was however owned by the Boone family, and Father Berry is a direct descendent of Nathan Boone through Nathan's wife Maria. After being set free, Caroline married William Berry and the two started a 40-acre homestead on which Father Berry and his family still live.

On his father's side, Moses Berry's great-grandfather was Wallace White, a former slave and the first black soldier in the Union's Missouri 6th Cavalry.

As the caretaker not only of a large treasury of family artifacts but also of the history of this part of Missouri, Father Berry has preserved in his simple but poignant museum many unique items including a massive neck iron, leg shackles, and a medallion from the A.G. Brock Slave Trading House that advertised "healthy, strong slaves."



Through informal talks and lectures Father Berry strives to reconnect African-American history with the overall historical American experience. When he displays the chains and implements used to assure his ancestors' enslavement, he tells those he is speaking to that these artifacts and the almost unimaginable events they represent are part of the collective history of the United States. He also emphasizes that "You have to step back to look at history or it gets too emotional. I take advantage of everything around me to explain this or else they wore these things in vain."

This small Heritage Museum is an important stop on any visit to Missouri. You can also visit it virtually by clicking on the following link:

[Ozarks Afro-American Heritage Museum.](#)

Katherine Lederer: an archivist and scholar whose work gave a new meaning to social activism

Katherine Lederer was a professor at Missouri State University who chronicled black culture in the Ozarks starting in the 1970s when she wrote an article about the lynchings of three black men on Easter weekend of 1906 in Springfield, Missouri. The tragic event was a catalyst and precipitating factor that led to an exodus from Springfield of African-Americans who had achieved affluence and prosperity in Missouri; but the events were overshadowed by the San Francisco earthquake.

In the 20th century, Lederer amassed a collection of more than 2500 photographs and in 1986 wrote "Many Thousand Gone: Springfield's Lost Black History". Her work, which documents the lynchings and profiles the area's black community, are now housed in Missouri State's Katherine G. Lederer Ozarks African-American History Collection. The collection contains more than 7500 documents dating back to the Civil War and many of them, like the ones here, give a profound

sense of an African-American community in Springfield that was cohesive, thriving, and well-integrated into the municipality of Springfield.

Katherine Lederer died in Springfield, Missouri on November 24, 2005.

For more information, read Katherine's article ["My Old Man's A White Old Man: Black Women Search for Roots"](#).

Route 66

Sometimes called America's Main Street or The Mother Road, the historic Route 66 (in the "Show Me" state) is the stuff of folklore, legends, and nostalgia. It is also one of the best examples of the iconic American road trip, although if you look at the facts carefully, the actual highway itself was not exactly the stuff of dreams.



Sainte Geneviève, Missouri

When I arrived in the colonial and pioneer town of [Sainte-Geneviève, Missouri](#), which is promoted as the only French colonial village left in the United States, it was a kind of out-of-body experience. As someone who visits and writes about Québec frequently, I felt strangely right at home. This town also communicates clearly the cultural convergence at the core of Missouri. The only thing I did notice, however, was the lack of information about the free black residents of the town who lived here before the Civil War.

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Historical Juxtapositions

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Other Recommended Missouri Travel Resources

[The official Missouri Convention and Visitors Bureau](#)

[The official St. Louis Convention and Visitors Commission](#)

Suggested activities:

- (a) Hike or bike along the Riverfront Trail to [Mary Meachum Freedom Crossing](#).
- (b) Explore the Dred Scott decision by visiting the new exhibition at the [Old Courthouse](#) where the landmark Dred Scott slavery trials began.
- (c) Pay your respects to the King of Ragtime at the [Scott Joplin House](#), a Missouri State Historic Site.

(d) In St. Louis, visit the [George Washington Carver Garden](#) at the Missouri Botanical Garden.

(e) Explore the arts of St. Louis and Missouri at the [Portfolio Gallery](#) and the [St. Louis Black Repertory Company](#).

(f) See the collection of African arts and artists at the [Saint Louis Art Museum](#).

(g) Visit the [Walk of Fame in "The Loop"](#) neighbourhood honouring such artists as Josephine Baker, Chuck Berry, and many others.

[The St. Louis, Missouri History Museum](#)

Of special interest, in terms of this travel article, are the African-American artifacts and art works. The Museum is also actively soliciting heritage items from the general public. If you have any such items and wish to contribute them to the Museum, you should contact:

Missouri Historical Society, Curator of African American Collections, P.O. Box 11940, St. Louis, MO 63112-0040, (314) 746-4527 (Collections division)

[The National Black Tourism Network](#)

[Missouri's Black Heritage, by Lorenzo Johnston Greene, Gary R. Kremer, Antonio Frederick Holland](#)

See also the following videos on YouTube

[Lila: A Missouri Slave's Story \(Part One\)](#)

[Lila: A Missouri Slave's Story \(Part Two\)](#)

[Lila: A Missouri Slave's Story \(Part Three\)](#)

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An apology from the Congress of the United States of America

Both timeless and out of time, the African-American historical experience in Missouri is not to be underestimated nor taken for granted; at its core there is an irrevocable hopefulness.

111th CONGRESS

1st Session

S. CON. RES. 26

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SENATE



THE UNITED STATES

June 11, 2009

Mr. HARKIN (for himself, Mr. BROWNBACK, Mr. LEVIN, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. LAUTENBERG, Ms. STABENOW, Mr. BOND, and Mr. COCHRAN) submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was ordered held at the desk



REPRESENTATIVES

June 18, 2009

Referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

Apologizing for the enslavement and racial segregation of African-Americans.

Whereas, during the history of the Nation, the United States has grown into a symbol of democracy and freedom around the world;

Whereas the legacy of African-Americans is interwoven with the very fabric of the democracy and freedom of the United States;

Whereas millions of Africans and their descendants were enslaved in the United States and the 13 American colonies from 1619 through 1865;

Whereas Africans forced into slavery were brutalized, humiliated, dehumanized, and subjected to the indignity of being stripped of their names and heritage;

Whereas many enslaved families were torn apart after family members were sold separately;

Whereas the system of slavery and the visceral racism against people of African descent upon which it depended became enmeshed in the social fabric of the United States;

Whereas slavery was not officially abolished until the ratification of the 13th amendment to the Constitution of the United States in 1865, after the end of the Civil War;

Whereas after emancipation from 246 years of slavery, African-Americans soon saw the fleeting political, social, and economic gains they made during Reconstruction eviscerated by virulent racism, lynchings, disenfranchisement, Black Codes, and racial segregation laws that imposed a rigid system of officially sanctioned racial segregation in virtually all areas of life;

Whereas the system of de jure racial segregation known as 'Jim Crow', which arose in certain parts of the United States after the Civil War to create separate and unequal societies for Whites and African-Americans, was a direct result of the racism against people of African descent that was engendered by slavery;

Whereas the system of Jim Crow laws officially existed until the 1960s—a century after the official end of slavery in the United States—until Congress took action to end it, but the vestiges of Jim Crow continue to this day;

Whereas African-Americans continue to suffer from the consequences of slavery and Jim Crow laws—long after both systems were formally abolished—through enormous damage and loss, both tangible and intangible, including the loss of human dignity and liberty;

Whereas the story of the enslavement and de jure segregation of African-Americans and the dehumanizing atrocities committed against them should not be purged from or minimized in the telling of the history of the United States;

Whereas those African-Americans who suffered under slavery and Jim Crow laws, and their descendants, exemplify the strength of the human character and provide a model of courage, commitment, and perseverance;

Whereas, on July 8, 2003, during a trip to Goree Island, Senegal, a former slave port, President George W. Bush acknowledged the continuing legacy of slavery in life in the United States and the need to confront that legacy, when he stated that slavery 'was . . . one of the greatest crimes of history . . . The racial bigotry fed by slavery did not end with slavery or with segregation. And many of the issues that still trouble America have roots in the bitter experience of other times. But however long the journey, our destiny is set: liberty and justice for all.';

Whereas President Bill Clinton also acknowledged the deep-seated problems caused by the continuing legacy of racism against African-Americans that began with slavery, when he initiated a national dialogue about race;

Whereas an apology for centuries of brutal dehumanization and injustices cannot erase the past, but confession of the wrongs committed and a formal apology to African-Americans will help bind the wounds of the Nation that are rooted in slavery and can speed racial healing and reconciliation and help the people of the United States understand the past and honor the history of all people of the United States;

Whereas the legislatures of the



Commonwealth of Virginia and the States of Alabama, Florida, Maryland, and North Carolina have taken the lead in adopting resolutions officially expressing appropriate remorse for slavery, and other State legislatures are considering similar resolutions; and

Whereas it is important for the people of the United States, who legally recognized slavery through the Constitution and the laws of the United States, to make a formal apology for slavery and for its successor, Jim Crow, so they can move forward and seek reconciliation, justice, and harmony for all people of the United States:

Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives concurring),

that the sense of the Congress is the following:

(1) APOLOGY FOR THE ENSLAVEMENT AND SEGREGATION OF AFRICAN-AMERICANS

The Congress...

(A) acknowledges the fundamental injustice, cruelty, brutality, and inhumanity of slavery and Jim Crow laws;

(B) apologizes to African-Americans on behalf of the people of the United States, for the wrongs committed against them and their ancestors who suffered under slavery and Jim Crow laws; and

(C) expresses its recommitment to the principle that all people are created equal and endowed with inalienable rights to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness, and calls on all people of the United States to work toward eliminating racial prejudices, injustices, and discrimination from our society.

(2) DISCLAIMER

Nothing in this resolution

(A) authorizes or supports any claim against the United States; or

(B) serves as a settlement of any claim against the United States.

Passed the Senate June 18, 2009.

Attest:

NANCY ERICKSON,

Secretary.



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Prague, Czech Republic site of the 2012 FIJET Board of Directors Meeting